

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 07056 151609Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 AID-05  
EB-07 COME-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 /128 W  
-----070384 160205Z /63

R 151505Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4456  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL ABIDJAN 7056

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PROC, IV, US  
SUBJECT:  
MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: IVORY COAST

REF: (A) STATE 159747 (B) 76 ABIDJAN 2081 (C) 76 STATE 37591  
(D) ABIDJAN 4918

1. RESPONSES IN REFTEL (B) TO 76 STATE 37591 REMAIN GENERALLY VALID. REPLIES TO QUESTIONS B, C, D AND E CAN STAND PRACTICALLY UNCHANGED. HOWEVER, THE DISCUSSION OF IVORY COAST'S PRIMARY MULTILATERAL INTERESTS SHOULD REFLECT THE GROWING CONCERN OF PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY AND HIS GOVERNMENT ABOUT SOVIET AND OTHER COMMUNIST ENCROACHMENTS IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE. FURTHER, WHILE GOIC HAS NOT ABANDONED ITS BELIEF IN THE NECESSITY FOR THIRD WORLD SOLIDARITY, HOUPHOUET APPEARS INCREASINGLY DETERMINED TO ENSURE THAT VOICES OF REASON AND MODERATION BE HEARD IN INTER-NATIONAL FORA AND TO PREVENT RADICAL IDEOLOGUE COUNTRIES FROM PREEMPTING THIRD WORLD LEADERSHIP. THIS DETERMINATION HAS BEEN EVIDENT IN THE RECENT SUMMITS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICA (CEAO) IN ABIDJAN AND THE OAU IN LIBREVILLE AND IN IVORIAN READINESS TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED AT THE COLOMBO NAM. IT IS  
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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 07056 151609Z

LIKELY ALSO TO BE INFLUENTIAL IN IVORIAN ATTITUDES AT UNGA.  
(ABIDJAN 4918 DESCRIBES HOUPHOUET'S CONVERSATION WITH USUN AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND ASST. SECRETARY MAYNES IN WHICH HOUPHOUET SPOKE OF HIS CONCERNS AND OF IVORY COAST'S POSITION IN THE UNGA). IVORY COAST WOULD HOPE TO USE MULTILATERAL FORA TO EXPRESS THESE CONCERNS.

2. IVORY COAST'S UNGA RECORD HAS BEEN GOOD FROM U.S. STANDPOINT.

GIVEN THE MARKED SIMILARITY OF VIEWS ON MOST POLITICAL ISSUES, AND HOUPHOUET'S COMMITMENT TO REASON AND DIALOGUE, IVORY COAST WILL CONTINUE TO BE GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF U.S. POSITIONS ON MOST POLITICAL QUESTIONS, THOUGH ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES, THE IVORIANS CAN BE AS MILITANT AS ANY. EVEN IVORY COAST, HOWEVER, CANNOT BE COUNTED UPON IN EVERY INSTANCE NOT TO GET CARRIED AWAY BY THE THIRD WORLD TIDE. EMBASSY WAS DISAPPOINTED BY ILO RESULTS, WHERE, AFTER ASSURANCES OF SUPPORT FROM HOUPHOUET HIMSELF, FOREIGN MINISTER AND LABOR MINISTER, GOIC DELEGATION JOINED MAJORITY IN ABSTAINING ON U.S. SPONSORED RESOLUTIONS.

3. MLO OFFICER DONALD MCCONNELL HAS DEPARTED POST. UNTIL ARRIVAL OF PEDRO MARTINEZ, HIS SUCCESSOR, MLO POSITION WILL BE FILLED BY DCM GOODWIN COOKE.

STEARNS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 159747, 76 ABIDJAN 2081, 76 STATE 37591, 77 ABIDJAN 4918  
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**TAGS:** PORG, IV, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009